Sayyidah Fatimah (`a) and the Pomegranate

On the blessed day of 1st Dhū al-Ḥijjah, a heavenly marriage took place. This marriage was so beloved by Allah that even the angels in the heavens celebrated this divine matrimony. Indeed, this was the holy marriage of Imām `Alī (`a) and Sayyidah Fāṭimah (`a).

Imām `Alī and Sayyidah Fāṭimah had a model marriage. They loved and respected each other deeply, and treated each other with the utmost appreciation. Sayyidah Fāṭimah (`a) was sure to never ask or demand anything from her husband, just in case he was unable to afford it and was too embarrassed to say so!

One day, however, Imām `Alī (`a) insisted that his wife ask him for something. After much insistence, she finally agreed and asked for a pomegranate.

Imām `Alī (`a), eager to fill his wife's only request, headed to the bazaar and found a pomegranate vendor. He carefully looked through all the pomegranates and finally picked out one that looked sweet and juicy. He couldn't wait to go home and present it to his lovely wife!

As Imām `Alī (`a) began walking home, his eyes fell upon a poor man who was ill. As always, the kind Imām (`a) stop and asked the man what he would like. The poor man expressed his desire to eat a pomegranate. Without hesitation, Imām `Alī (`a) gave the man the pomegranate he had bought for his wife. After all, it was the tradition of the Ahl al-Bayt (`a) to always give what they loved to those in need.

Now, as the kind Imām (`a) walked towards his home, he felt guilty and thought to himself, "This was the first time ever that Fāṭimah (`a) had asked me for something, and I have been unable to fulfil her wish!"

Although he was certain that Sayyidah Fāṭimah (`a) would be happy to know that the pomegranate was given away for a good cause, he still felt guilty. But as he entered his home, a strange scent filled his nose. He asked, ""O Fāṭimah! What is this smell of pomegranates that has filled the home?"

Sayyidah Fāṭimah (`a) replied, "O `Alī! These are the pomegranates you sent! You gave away one to a beggar, and in return, Allah has sent these from Paradise!"

You see, while Imām `Alī (`a) was headed home, Jabra'īl came to the Noble Prophet (ṣ) with a tray of pomegranates from Paradise and informed him about what had happened. The Noble Prophet (ṣ) gave the tray to his trusted companion, Salmān al-Farsī, and asked him to deliver it to Sayyidah Fāṭimah (`a) before Imām `Alī (`a) reached home.

When Salman gave the tray of pomegranates to Sayyidah Fāṭimah (`a), she asked, "O Salman! Where has this tray come from?"

Salman replied, "O Daughter of the Prophet! You expressed your desire for a pomegranate from Imām `Alī (`a). He bought it and gave it to a poor beggar. For his sincere action, Allah has sent this tray from Paradise so that your wish is fulfilled and Imām `Alī (`a) is also saved from any embarrassment."

AL-KISA FOUNDATION
UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY